

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP OEXC PINS (ISIK, HASAN ESAT)(KOLOGLU, ORHAN) TU

SUBJECT: ECEVIT VISIT TO THE U.S.: BIO INFORMATION ON

HASAN ESAT ISIK AND ORHAN KOLOGLU

REF: STATE 177783

1. AS REQUESTED IN REFTTEL, FOLLOWING IS BIO UPDATE ON HASAN ESAT ISIK AND INITIAL BIO REPORT ON ORHAN KOLOGLU, WHO WILL ACCOMPANY ECEVIT DURING U.S. VISIT. ANKARA 5324 UPDATES INFO ON ECEVIT.

A. HASAN ESAT ISIK -- CURRENT TITEL: DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL, REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP). ISIK HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF BIO REPORTING DURING HIS EARLIER SERVICE AS A CAREER DIPLOMAT, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE. WITH THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT IN NOVEMBER 1974, ISIK STEPPED DOWN AS DEFENSE MINISTER. HE BECAME ACTIVE IN INTERNAL RPP POLITICS AND, ALTHOUGH HE HAD ONLY ENTERED THE PARTY IN 1973, ROSE RAPIDLY. ON MARCH 9, 1976 HE WAS ELECTED AS ONE OF THE RPP'S TWO DEPUTY SECGENS. IN THIS POST HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY IS THE PARTY'S POLICIES AND PROGRAM (THE OTHER DEPUTY LOOKS AFTER THE PARTY'S ORGANIZATION). ISIK HAS BECOME ECEVIT'S PRINCIPAL ADVISOR ON FOREIGN AND DEFENSE AFFAIRS. HE HAS ALSO BECOME A FREQUENT SPOKESMAN FOR THE PARTY IN SUCH MATTERS. ISIK APPEARS TO

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US VERY MUCH A CHAUVINIST, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS GREECE.

HE HAS TAKEN A HARD LINE ON THE ASSERTION OF TURKEY'S CLAIMS IN THE AEGEAN, AND HAS BEEN VERY CRITICAL OF ALLEGED U.S. FAVORITISM TOWARD GREECE. HOWEVER, HE IS PERSONALLY FRIENDLY TOWARD THE U.S. AND PRO-WEST IN OUTLOOK.

B. ORHAN KOLOGLU -- CURRENT TITEL: INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY, RPP. KOLOGLU WAS BORN IN KADINHAN, KONYA PROVINCE, TURKEY, IN 1929. HE GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ISTANBUL'S INSTITUTE OF JOURNALISM AND RECEIVED A DOCTORATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF STRASBOURG, WHERE HE STUDIED BETWEEN 1966 AND 1969. HIS DISSERTATION WAS ENTITLED, "THE TURK IN THE FRENCH PRESS, 1470-1815". KOLOGLU HAS BEEN A JOURNALIST SINCE 1947, AND HE HAS WORKED FOR THE DAILY NEWS-PAPERS AKSAM, YENI SABAH, AND MILLIYET. BETWEEN 1964 AND 1971, HE SERVED AS PRESS OFFICER IN THE TURKISH EMBASSIES IN ROME, KARACHI, PARIS, LONDON, AND BEIRUT. IN 1968 HE SPENT TWO WEEKS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON UNDERTAKING RESEARCH FOR ONE OF THE FOUR BOOKS HE HAS WRITTEN. IN 1974 KOLOGLU WAS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRESS INFORMATION FOR THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT. AFTER THAT GOVERNMENT LEFT OFFICE, KOLOGLU IN MARCH 1975 WAS APPOINTED TO HIS PRESENT JOB AS INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE RPP. HE EXPLAINS THAT THE PURPOSE OF THIS TITLE WAS TO "CLARIFY" HIS ROLE WITHIN THE PARTY AS A PAID STAFFER RESPONSIBLE FOR FOREIGN LIAISON (DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN ANKARA, FOREIGN PRESS, AND POLITICAL PARTIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES). HE IS HELPFUL AND FRIENDLY TO U.S. OFFICIALS, BUT HE IS TOTALLY LOYAL TO ECEVIT. HE NEVER EXCEEDS HIS ROLE AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE STRAIGHT PARTY LINE AND NEVER GIVES HIS CANDID PERSONAL OPINION REGARDING TURKISH POLITICS. HE IMPRESSES US AS A COMPETENT PRESS RELATIONS OFFICER. KOLOGLU IS MARRIED AND HAS NO CHILDREN. HE SPEAKS FRENCH AND ENGLISH.

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